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[redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]

The attached is in response to Representative Leggett 's request for information as relayed by telephone on 1 August 1978.

[redacted]

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Date 3 August 1978

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3 August 1978

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Soviet Naval Deployment in Distant Areas

1. The Soviet Navy normally maintains groups of combatant vessels in three areas away from the USSR. On a typical day, the following force levels may be present in:

Mediterranean Sea

1-2	cruisers
2-4	destroyers
3	frigates
2	minesweepers
2	amphibious ships
8-9	submarines

Indian Ocean

0-1	cruiser
1-2	destroyers
2	frigates
2	minesweepers
1	amphibious ship
1	submarine

West Africa

1-2	destroyers
1	minesweeper
1	amphibious ship
1	submarine

This memorandum was prepared in the Office of Strategic Research. Comments and queries are welcome and should be directed to [redacted]

[redacted]

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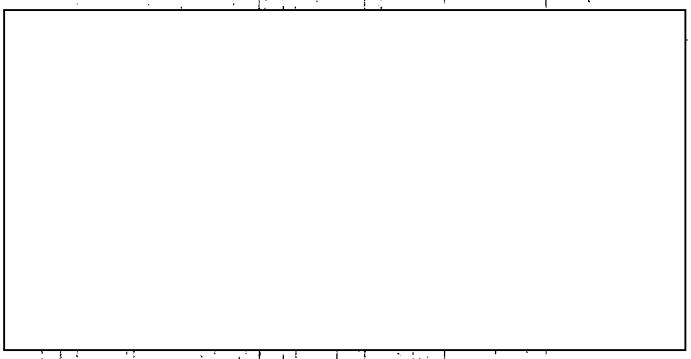
E 2 IMPDET CL BY [redacted]

2. Soviet naval force levels might rise during periods of crisis, as they did, for example, over a several-week period in the Mediterranean Sea during and after the 1973 Middle East war and off the coast of East Africa in 1977 at the height of the conflict between Ethiopia and Somalia. In addition, occasional exercises or task force deployments temporarily raise the numbers of Soviet vessels in particular distant areas. A small contingent--usually two warships and sometimes a submarine--visits Cuba about twice a year for several weeks. A pair of surface combatants has deployed to the Philippine Sea for ASW exercises in three of the last four years, and occasionally, task groups of Soviet warships operate further into the central and eastern Pacific Ocean, generally staying no longer than 1-2 weeks. Finally, about ten intelligence collection trawlers are deployed around the world at any given time.



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